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It is just as well for Americans to face the truth of the imperial situation. It is so permanently into the business of robbing other people we cannot expect the national standard of morals to forbid robbery on the part of our colonial officials. They know the entire business is a skin game. The thing to do is to get in the game while there's big money in it. That's what they're doing now.

## SHOW LOCAL ABILITY.

Though the street cars were kept running yesterday on some of the principal lines, there were a few attempts at interference which might have developed into dangerous turbulence but for the vigorous action of the police.

It is fair to suppose that part of the vicious spirit manifested yesterday was due less to the strike itself than to the presence on the streets of the usual Sunday numbers of persons without definite occupation. A noticeable element was that of idle boys and girls whose heedless talk doubtless added perceptibly to the mischievous inclinations of older idlers.

Demonstrations of this kind are a warning of the danger attending a strike in other trades. A large number of idle boys and girls on the streets contains always the liability to brawl and violence, even when no special cause of excitement is present. With a sharply irritating cause at work on the streets, the wisest means of avoiding disorder is to keep everybody—including half-grown boys and girls—busy at occupations which will leave no time for seeking trouble.

Men who believe in local government have hoped that St. Louis and the State of Missouri would be amply able to deal with the outbreaks incident to this strike. They still hope so, notwithstanding the appeal to the Federal courts made by the Post Office authorities. If the citizens of St. Louis, particularly the wage-earning citizens, will give moral and physical aid to the police at every opportunity there will be no the slightest occasion for calling upon the power of the United States Government to support Judge Adams's injunction.

Do the citizens of St. Louis reflect upon the fact that if they do not give aid and support to their own police they can securely claim the right to local government. In spite of all our opinions of natural rights, we know as a truth of practical life that a right to local government will be swept away when it is necessary to fight at every crisis. And only an intellectual craft will assert that impotence deserves any treatment except contemptuous dismissal.

We can do without Federal interference. But we would as well say "can't" as "won't." If we do not protect our highways some other power will be invoked.

The indubitable truth of all this has nothing to do with the questions between the striking Union and the Transit company. As a municipality our chief business is strengthening our local police power in its dealing with disorder. It is the business of the citizen of Missouri to assist in showing that the Federal Government is not needed. As long as a policeman is a part of each street car's equipment the citizens of St. Louis cannot claim that they are doing their full duty as a municipality claiming to be self-governing. They cannot greatly quarrel if the Federal Government steps in to protect its property.

Before force is called to the support of the injunction it would be an excellent thing for the citizens of St. Louis to stimulate themselves to a special effort toward crushing hoodlumism and strengthening the police.

## FEWER LAWS, NOT MORE.

To regulate traffic with a remedy which harmonizes with established economic laws is not the object of the Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee and the administration combine. The first and obvious remedy is not in additional legislation, but in a repeal of some of the legislation now in force—the tariff regulations which protect and foster the very trusts which the anti-trust laws strive to regulate.

The time came for the large majority of the trusts which have sprung up in the United States during the past three years is in an abolition of governmental interference with trade except for the legitimate purpose of raising revenue. No government can protect logically against a suppression of competition when it maintains laws whose avowed object is to suppress competition. Remove the protection which the Dingley tariff law gives in a large number of lines of manufacture, and competition will speedily prevent the fixing of prices arbitrarily and the collecting of high prices from the people.

Other remedies proposed treat merely the symptoms of the disease. A tax on trust profits or Government regulation of trust prices would only put fresh power to discriminate into hands that have too much such power already. Such remedies give the Government the right to declare which is a "good trust" and which a "bad trust," and the trusts will continue to control the Government by the wealth which the Government by tariff protection compels the people to give to the trusts.

## HE TOLD THE TRUTH.

Chairman Van Rensselaer of the American reception committee which welcomed the Boer Peace Commissioners to this country on their arrival at New York City was justified in declaring that the great mass of the American people are in keen sympathy with the Boer cause.

This does not arise, however, from American hostility to England, a fact which it is well to keep in mind on both sides of the water. It is due solely to the fact that the Boer struggle for freedom appeals irresistibly to Americans as a just and brave fight that deserves the encouragement of all who love liberty.

It is very much such a fight as the Cubans, the Filipinos and the Porto Ricans, and to assume control of

their affairs by virtue of the strong hand, leads to this thing on the part of the carpetbag freebooters whom we send to administer "colonial" affairs in our name. They are in supreme authority. There is little or no check on their actions or accounts. The whole thing is a highway hold-up for money, anyhow—why shouldn't they get their share? And they do, and are not one whit worse than the robber Government which they represent.

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## JAMES R. KEENE'S BIG BET ON BRYAN.

Bluff of a McKinleyite Called by the Famous Bear Speculator.

## OTHER NEW YORKERS COMING IN

Democrats of the Empire State Believe That They Can Give Their Electoral Vote to Bryan Without Much Trouble.

BY ALFRED HENRY LEWIS.

Editor of the Verdict.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL.

New York, May 20.—This State, Democratic in its sympathies, is on the brink of that convention which selects delegates to the National Convention at Kansas City. The local convention is to be held in this city June 5 at the Academy of Music, within a step of the Academy of Music, within a step of the Academy of Music.

It will be well for the people to appreciate at the outset the crafty nature of the game to be played by the Republican national organization in its efforts to shield the more powerful and unscrupulous trusts from injury while at the same time blinding the general public to its vigorous work in this field as defender of the syndicates.

The tactics to be adopted by Mark Hanna and the administration tricksters will aim at placing the Democratic party on the defensive by charging that the national Democracy is seeking the injury of all corporate interests and that it is, in reality, aligned against the commercial and industrial prosperity of the country. Under Hanna's direction, the facts now indicate, the anti-trust plank to be inserted in the Republican national platform will be a very mild and inoffensive protest, not calculated to alarm in the slightest the syndicate monopolists from whom Hanna expects to collect a slush fund of \$30,000,000 for Republican campaign use.

When Democratic speakers and newspaper editors expose the hypocrisy of this Republican anti-trust attitude, the answer will come that the Democratic attitude is that of undiscriminating hostility to all business interests, while the Republican party proposes to punish only the "bad" trusts and encourage and develop the others. It is a cunning argument, but it should not prevail with Americans familiar with the recent record of the two parties. The national Democracy stands in the open as demanding the curtailment of power of the great and all-absorbing monopolies. The Republican national organization is owned bodily by these dangerous combines.

Voters awake to the menace of the trust evil brought to its most malignant development will not look to the Republican party for the suppression of that evil. They will turn, instead, to Democracy, pledged to uphold the best interests of commerce and industry by destroying the height of monopoly with which those interests are now threatened. The issue is clear and the alignment of the two great parties is plain.

A "sympathy" strike by all the allied trades in St. Louis would be the most forcible argument that could be made against an increase in the power of trusts unions. To cause loss to an innocent employer of union labor because another man refuses to become an employer of union labor would be equivalent to a warning against putting faith in unions.

President McKinley may not be directly responsible for the strikes all over the country, but the man who assumes credit for favorable business conditions cannot shrink blame for unfavorable business conditions.

St. Louis is so willing to have the Federal Government as a partner in the World's Fair enterprise that she wants the partnership to date from the beginning, with each side putting up its money simultaneously.

The further postponement of ten days in the Mayor's "investigation" of the Supply Department seems to indicate that he is having trouble finding the exact proportions he needs for a good article of whitewash.

England's War Office is urging the organization of national rifle clubs for defense against invasion. The early American minute man and the Boer sharpshooter supplied the foundation for this valuable idea.

If the opera glass through which England makes out a speedy end for the South African war is like the one which periodically shows Americans the end of the Philippine war England cannot afford to trust it.

About the only difference between Colonel Filley and Colonel Kewen just now is that Colonel Filley knew from the start that he had no business with the Republican State Convention at Kansas City.

President McKinley seems to have two backbones. One of chocolate eladr for the trusts, the other of adamant and harveyed steel for the Boer peace envoys.

It is likely that whatever training Corbett undertakes for his congressional campaign will be devoted to the improvement of his mind.

Cuba probably sees little difference between the hoodling American carpetbaggers and their Spanish predecessors of the Weyler stripe.

Raden-Powell should welcome Little Bobs to Matking with the quotation—"For this relief, much thanks."

It is his own.

God surely made the country.

And heaven never sends.

Where it came from, from sky to sky.

The town's trouble tonight may not be its last.

And loved the thing he made.

God surely made the country.

And heaven never sends.

## G. A. R. MEN ARE RIPE FOR REVOLT.

Angered at Snubs by Missouri Republican Leaders and the Pension Commissioner.

## NEGROES ALSO DISGRUNTLED.

Received Practically No Recognition from Convention at Kansas City and Meditate Revenge at Polls.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL.

Springfield, Ill., May 20.—A member of the Missouri State Committee says that the Missouri State Convention at Kansas City has received practically no recognition from the G. A. R. men.

The general party apathy is nothing compared to the factional dissension that exists among the rank and file. The biggest portion of the Grand Army of the Republic has no kindly feeling, because of the recent attempt of the leaders to snub them by announcing the date for the Kansas City convention at the same time the annual convention of the State G. A. R. was being held in Springfield, in order to keep them away from the convention. This insult has been felt keenly by the old veterans, who have always taken an active part in State politics.

But this is not the prime cause for the revolt of the old-soldier element. There are hundreds of veterans throughout the State who expect not only to watch each presidential election but also to elect their own representatives to the State Convention at Kansas City. The State Convention at Kansas City has been growing steadily, and several members of the G. A. R. have openly announced their opposition to the return of McKinley to the White House. They expect to elect a crusading blow not only to the administration, but they will also show the party managers that they are capable of upholding their rights.

Another question the State Committee will have to face is the negro vote. In the State Convention at Kansas City the negroes were so totally ignored that at the last minute it became necessary to call a special session of the convention to deal with the negro vote. The negro vote was so small that it was not worth the trouble of calling a special session. The negro vote was so small that it was not worth the trouble of calling a special session.